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Springs group gives money to Ohio effort

Amendment 2-like law on ballot

Associated Press

Colorado for Family Values, which successfully promoted Amendment 2, gave $75,000 to a similar effort in Ohio, campaign records show.

The Colorado Springs group has accounted for more than half the $147,058 amassed by an organization known as Equal Rights, Not Special Rights, according to financial disclosure forms filed in Cincinnati.

"If we have money, and there's a group fighting the battle the way we like it, we'll make a donation," said Kevin Tebedo, a spokesman for Colorado for Family Values. "Our mission is to be a resource in any way we can."

The donation is believed to be one of the first times Colorado for Family Values has helped an out-of-state campaign.

Amendment 2, which prohibits laws protecting gays from discrimination based on sexual orientation, was approved by Colorado voters in November. It is on hold pending a judge's decision on its constitutionality.

Equal Rights, Not Special Rights is sponsoring a measure that would repeal Cincinnati's human rights ordinance protecting individuals on the basis of sexual orientation. The election is Tuesday.

Similar gay-rights battles will be decided Tuesday in Lewiston, Maine and two Oregon cities.

Tebedo would not say whether Colorado for Family Values is contributing to other similar efforts. He said he doesn't want "everybody in the world to know what we're doing."

Colorado for Family Values is trying to raise $1 million to fight efforts to repeal Amendment 2.

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